

Dr Esther Baena completed her undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Seville in Spain. She obtained her PhD in 2006 from the University Autonoma of Madrid, Spain, in Dr Ignacio Moreno de Alboran and Carlos Martinez-A laboratory, advancing the understanding of the role of c-myc essential to the biology of the immune system and blood development. From 2007 and 2011 Dr Baena trained as a postdoctoral fellow in Prof Stuart Orkin's laboratory at Harvard Medical School (Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Boston Children's Hospital) funded initially by the Spanish Science Ministry followed by a US Department of Defence Career Development Award. Combining genomics and animal models she identified a novel cancer gene signature associated with aggressive prostate cancer which will facilitate the development of more efficient targeted therapies. Dr Baena joined the CRUK Manchester Institute as a Junior Group Leader in June 2014.